



**Sekhukhune and Umkhanyakude  
Orphans and Vulnerable  
Children's Project**

**Implemented by:**

**AMREF South Africa and Local  
Partners**

# Presentation Outline

- **Who is AMREF**
- **AMREF's Approach and Strategy**
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# Who is AMREF?

The **African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF)** is the largest health and development organisation based in Africa.

**AMREF's mission** is to improve the health of disadvantaged people in Africa as a means for them to escape poverty and improve the quality of their lives.

AMREF works in six **Priority Intervention Areas** of which AMREF SA focuses on four including:

- HIV/AIDS/STI and TB.
- Safe water supply and sanitation,
- Training and the development of health learning materials, and
- Family health (including Orphans and Vulnerable Children)

## **AMREF South Africa.....**

- Works in most disadvantaged areas of South Africa (Presidential rural nodes)
- Implements comprehensive community based health programmes
- Is not a direct service provider. Assist communities to identify their problems and define realistic, sustainable cost-effective solutions.
- facilitates linkages between disadvantaged communities and essential health and social services

## **3 Inter-related Strategies (3 Ts - TEST, TEACH, and TELL)**

- Operations research
- Capacity Building
- Advocacy

Replication and scale-up of a previous pilot initiative which took place in Thembisile Municipality, Mpumalanga.

## **The project:**

- Built the capacity of existing organisations and community support structures for OVC.
- Trained NGOs and CBOS, government departments and caregivers to raise knowledge related to children's needs and rights
- Facilitated networking and inter-sectoral collaboration
- Developed a database of OVC, referral system and guidelines for service providers
- Increased children's access to a wide range of resources and services (increased distribution of resources to OVC programmes)



# Rationale for this Project

## **AMREF's Research shows:**

- Limited awareness of the rights and needs of OVC in the community, at an institutional and community level.
- Limited co-ordination between NGOs, CBOs and government OVC programmes and integration of policies related to OVC
- No standardised system for monitoring OVC and service access

## **Areas for capacity building and resource allocation:**

- Promoting community-based, multi-agency ChildCare Forums
- Supporting Drop in Centres to support children and caregivers
- Improving the functional integration of service providers, departments and civil society programmes
- Lifeskills training for in and out of school youth

# Project Approach and Strategies

AMREF's project aims to strengthen the holistic care-giving infrastructure and links between OVC and caregivers and services provided.

**Capacity building:** - training, mentoring and provision of on-site support and assistance to improve the overall quality of service provision. Improving the knowledge and skills of OVC stakeholders particularly in field of identification, referral, support and monitoring of OVC.

**Partnership and collaboration:** strengthening inter-sectoral links between key service providers. Establish a referral system between these agencies and assist to identify bottlenecks in service provision. Strengthen collaboration and co-ordination between district and municipality level OVC co-ordinators





# Project Approach and Strategies



## Operations research: -

- Train and develop systems at the community level which promote the systematic collection, tracking and analysis of OVC data.
- Develop and test a model of good practice for strengthening community based care for OVCs which can be scaled-up and replicated in similar contexts.

**Advocacy:** - Improve the skills and the capacity of local community members, and those involved in the care and support of OVC to lobby and advocate for implementation of appropriate policies and improved availability and access to essential services for OVC.



# Project Results and Activities

**Intermediate result 1:** Increased awareness and understanding on OVC rights and vulnerability by key government/civil society stakeholders and OVC themselves.



**Intermediate result 2:** Improved identification, referral, delivery of comprehensive OVC services, and monitoring of orphans and vulnerable children.

**Intermediate Result 3:** Appropriate OVC policies adopted and programmes in place at the local municipality and district level.

**Intermediate Result 4:** Improved access of OVC to an increased number and improved quality of NGO and CBO services and effective referral systems in place.

Strong partnership established with government and civil society partners (DOSD, DOH, district and local municipalities, Drop in Centres, NGO coalitions and umbrella bodies)

AMREF will establish a **Project Steering Committee PSC** comprising multi-disciplinary representatives to assist in managing and evaluating the project.

PSC ensures political and community buy-in, commitment and promotes sustainability of the intervention.

AMREF has formed partnerships with the following organisations:

**Sekhukhune:** The Civil Society Development Initiative (CSDI) and the Makhuduthamaga Home and Community Based Care Umbrella (MK-HCBC).

**Umkhanyakude:** Ubombo Drop in Centre, Nduma Drop in Centre (both Jozini) and IThembalesiswe Drop in Centre (Hlabisa)

# Roles of NGO Partners

All partners have strong links to government and civil society groups.

Partners/subgrantees will be engaged in the project through:

- Mentoring NGOs and CBOs who have been trained to support the implementation of appropriate services for OVC
- Development of training programmes and the facilitation of training for CCFs, Childcare workers, service providers, PSC
- Sensitisation of children on their rights and engaging children's participation in the project
- Mentoring of Lifeskills at Drop on Centres and schools
- Identifying community advocacy issues and monitoring and mentoring the community advocacy activities and strategies
- Assist to develop an effective recording and monitoring system for OVC

**Thank You**

